GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:721
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2017
Conversion into Green Areas
Patel Shri Prahlad Singh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that major chunks of urban areas can be converted into green lands as many private and public areas are left unused and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
(b) whether the Government proposes to introduce/make a law/strategy for the compulsory conversion of the unused places in the urban areas to increase the green cover in the country;
(c) if so, the details thereof; and
(d) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) The Government is aware that some urban areas both under public and private ownership are lying unused.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal for introducing/making a law for the compulsory conversion of the unused places in the urban areas to increase the green cover in the country. However, the National Forest Policy 1988 encourages plantation of trees alongside roads, railway lines, rivers and streams and canals, and on other unutilized lands under State/corporate, institutional or private ownership along with green belts to be raised in urban/industrial areas as well as in arid regions. The Government also implements the National Mission for a Green India which, inter alia, includes support for greening of open spaces and woodlots; diffused planting on avenues and in households through various interventions.

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